GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2383
ANSWERED ON:17.12.2003
LAW FOR SEXUAL ABUSE OF CHILDREN
SURESH RAMRAO JADHAV (PATIL)

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to enact a separate law to deal with sexual abuse of children;

(b) if so, the time by when such a legislation is likely to be enacted; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI JASKAUR MEENA)

(a),(b)&(c) The Law Commission of India in its 172nd report hasrecommended changes for widening the scope of section 375 of the Indian Penal Code, 1860 and to makeit gender neutral. Various other changes have been recommended in section 376, 376A to 376D. Insertion of a new section 376E dealing with unlawful sexual contact and deletion of section 377 of the Indian Penal Code have also been recommended.

The report of the Law Commission has been forwarded to the State Governments for their comments as the Criminal Law ison the Concurrent List of the Seventh Scheduleof the Constitution. Amendments to the Code of Criminal Procedure, 1973and the Indian Penal Code, 1860 on the basisof the recommendations of the Law Commission aresubject to the receipt of views/comments from the State Governments; the Central Government taking a holistic view on the recommendations and introduction and passage of an amendment Bill in Parliament for which no time frame can be fixed.